

KANE_DUPAGE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Board Meeting Notes – April 10, 2025

Call to order - Chairman Konen called meeting to order at 6:00 pm, at 2315 Dean Street, Suite 100, St. Charles, IL. Directors present: Konen, Bossenga, Pauling, Piper, Soliz. Associate Directors present: Campbell. Staff present: Borzeka, Gerds, Hunter, McPartlan, Purdom.

Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Soliz to accept the meeting agenda and seconded by Pauling, and **motion carried**.

Approval of Minutes: **Motion** made by Pauling to accept the minutes from the March 6, 2025 regular meeting and the Annual Meeting, seconded by Bossenga, and **motion carried**

Public Comment: none

Correspondence:

- Thank you letter from Envirothon Community Foundation for donation
- Thank you note from American Farmland Trust for event partnership
- AISWCD packet for Summer Conference
- Thank you package from the Happiness Project
- Aurora Farmers Market Sponsorship invitation (discussion of participating in other markets that have no cost)

Time Sheets: Motion made by Soliz to accept the timesheets PPE 3/14 and 3/28, and seconded by Pauling; and **motion carried**.

Staff Reports:

Administrative Coordinator – (see attached)

Resource Conservationist – (see attached)

Resource Analysts – (see attached)

Resource Specialist - (see attached)

District Conservationist – (see attached)

Conservation Planner (none)

Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) Review: Motion made by Soliz to approve NRIs 25-017 thru 25-028 (25-021 not yet paid), seconded by Pauling, and **motion carried**.

Board Action Items:

- Move Operating Checking Account from Sterling to Byline Bank: Motion made by Pauling, seconded by Soliz, and **motion carried**.
- Accept Partners for Conservation ranking as presented: Motion made by Piper, seconded by Pauling, and **motion carried**.
- St Charles Memorandum of Understanding final execution: approved at Nov 2024 meeting. Congratulations on finalizing!

Financial report and current bills: Motion made by Soliz to accept the financial report and pay current bills, seconded by Pauling, and **motion carried**. Team recognized for positive numbers during a difficult year.

Committees:

Personnel: *Bossenga* – Professor at North Central College seeking presentation

Urban: *Piper* – none

Agriculture: *Pauling* – rain in southern Illinois causing some flooding. Spring is slow and cold, not so dry any longer, will see if moisture is enough. Current Federal legislation is causing difficulties for farmers

Legislative: *Konen* – AISWCD meeting April 11 to discuss progress with Bills in Springfield. Gerdt's notes Kane County's desire to support – connected with Eliot Clay. Soliz expresses hope for RFK's support of regenerative agriculture, notes that we should be watching closely how he proceeds.

Grants: *Gerdt's* – IUM grant work proceeding, website updates and first e-newsletter issued. McPartlan noted committee actions. KDSWCD will administer Kane County water quality testing 604b grant. RFPs have been sent out. Awaiting next grant cycle to open to apply. KDSWCD will administer a Kane County Climate Action NICOR grant for new homeowner tree program.

New Business:

- Anticipate new IEPA 2-year contract issued at the end of the current contract
- IDOA contract changes letter reviewed. Extensive training for new Healthy Soils Initiative should dovetail with KDSWCD Soil Plan; STAR Navigator training scheduled; new reporting formats; penalties for missed deadlines. Discussion of hope that Eliot Clay will help shift the relationship SWCDs/IDOA to a more positive footing.

Old Business:

- Ethics documents – Policies Sub-Committee: on hold pending strategic planning
- Strategic Plan Sub-Committee implementation: Gerdt's to follow up with Chris Foster to develop a more clear plan of action
- Natural Area Guardian potential investigation on hold due to lack of resources at this time

Motion made by Piper and seconded by Bossenga to adjourn at 7:50 pm, and **motion carried**.

Respectfully submitted,
William Pauling
Secretary/Treasurer

KG